POEMS

ON

VARIOUS SUBJECTS

AND

OCCASIONS;

(From the Author's Manuscript, in the Hands of the Editor.)

BY

Mrs. SAVAGE.

In Two Volumes,

VOL. I.

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LETTER TO MISS E.B.

My Dear Friend,

You often tell me if I would print my works, they would not take half the Room in your Bureau, that they do now in Manuscript, and I should likewise save my self the trouble of denying for want b

of time, &c. fome very polite requests that have been made me for Copies. Should I therefore hereafter be induced, from a hope that my Sentiments may be of use to the World-from the pressing requests of my Friendsor at the defire of Several Persons of Quality-(all which reasons by the way are reducible to my own Vanity) to publish my transient Thoughts, Works, Ideas, Writings, or what ever you please to call them, I would certainly let all the World know, (for I take it for granted all the World will read them,) they were written by a Woman, who at the Time she amused her felf in Planning 'em, never intended them

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them for publick Inspection-who unblest with a learned Education, has no School Rules to boaft-a stranger even to the Grammar of her native Language—of a Disposition rather inclined to gaiety--'till the cares of the world and fome years experiencewean'd her from Company and Diversions; and a necessity of staying at home gave Opportunity to blot over many a harmless sheet of Paper; both in Verse and Prose; rather than interrupt others with a fet of thoughts that to them might be out of Seafonand I could farther inform them, (because every one loves to hear private Anecdotes of those who Write.)

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that I have the care of a large Family which really finds me full employment-and without being in Trade may properly be called a Woman of Bufiness-which I can safely say I never yet neglected for the fake of writing any thing I have yet produced-and what no one elfe could inform them-I confess I have so much the Spirit of Contradiction, that I much doubt, had it been my Lot, to pass a Life of Leisure, whether I should have the Inclination for Writing that I now find, when perhaps, I am not five Minutes alone, from Morn. to Night—and to prevent all Criticism on my Writings of every kind

kind, I confess that I believe them sull of faults: Which, had I abilities to amend I certainly should have set about long ago—but were those Alterations to be made by a Person of real knowledge in the Art of Writing, they must I suppose destroy one half to save the other—and then they would be no longer my works.

But if I should be worth the Public Notice in this simple Undress, the Approbation of the World will be best shown by buying up my first Edition, and calling for a second. I am,

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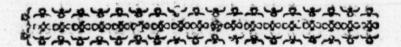
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My Dear Friend,
Affectionately Yours,

M. SAVAGE.

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To the READER.

THE Reader may be affured that these Poems are genuine, and printed from the Author's ownManuscript; and that none of them ever appeared in Public, except that on Oeconomy; A Copy of which having been accidentally seen by the late celebrated Doctor Hawkes-Worth, he so approved it, as to desire by

leave to insert it in the Gentleman's Magazine which he conducted. If too great a Contrast should appear between the Gravity of some of these Subjects and the Levity of others, it is hoped it will be excused, as they were never intended for the Press; were truly the Amusements of a leisure Hour; and are now offered to the World, in Compliance with real Sollicitations of her Friends.

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ERRATA in Vol. I.

age

Page 2, line 11, read For those
35, - 2, read courtly instead of country
- 54, - 6, read went instead of meant
- 60, - in the last line of the bottom note
read were instead of was
60, in the fame line of the fame note read
George instead of Georgre
- 61, - 5, read they instead of the
II, read neither instead of never
- 65, - 3, read pain instead of PAIN
- 99, - 11, and 12, read thus:
ease, cease to rave, nor strive an art to blast,
Which must, like truth and love, for ever last,

d wover Arace

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Sh



NOTHING NEW.

VAUNT mistrust, be gone pale fear,

A Nor whisper horrors in mine ear;

Why should I rack my thoughts in vain,

Or give my self a moment's pain,

Lest criticks; (if my works they view;)

Should gravely say, here's Nothing New.

"Tis

Tis Nothing New, I'm sure you know,
For those who write, their works to show,
And if they're prais'd, and render'd vain,
'Tis ten to one they write again;
And then they read it o'er with care,
Correcting here and adding there;
But others works they never view;
So judge the thought their own—'tis true,
In such mistakes, there's Nothing New.

And as I've heard, 'tis Nothing New,
Forthose who love sincere and true,
To fill their heads with grief and pain,
For fear they are not lov'd again;

" And

"And stories and experience tell us,"
"That men grow cold, and women jealous;
And many a Lad and Lass, 'tis faid,
A jest of love, and vows have made;
And love that's false, and love that's true,
Appear so like in every view,
That to mistake them's Nothing New.

That merit oft should be distress'd,
And wit, and impudence carefs'd;
That disappointment, should produce
Much disrespect, and some abuse;
That those who rise on fortune's wheel,
The power of vanity should feel,

nd

B 4

And

And think that riches are their due,

Because ambition was their view,

Are sure mistakes—but Nothing New.

}

That many a man's a flave to pride;

And pity oft is mifapply'd;

That real friends are feldom found;

Nor does religion much abound;

That people often read for fashion;

And men of genius oft shew passion;

That laws are good when rightly us'd,

And justice oft is much abus'd;

Are facts, my friend, most strictly true:

But yet alas! they're Nothing New.

And

And long before our time, 'tis said,

When Solomon had life survey'd,

This sentence he pronounc'd as true;

Throughout the world there's Nothing New.



nd

B3 CANTATA.



CANTATA.

RECITATIVE,

STREPHON, with all his fex's pride,
Had Flavia's conftant love defy'd,
And coldly bid the gentle maid.

Expect her cure from reason's aid.

AIR.

[7]

AIR.

Disdaining the fex,

On no fair one I'll wait,

Nor bind me by vows,

To repent when too late;

Your beauty's a flower

That dies while we gaze,

And your merit depends,

On the breath of our praise.

RECITATIVE.

Flavia diffrest, to cupid pray'd,
And thus the God reveng'd the maid;

IR

B 4

A gay coquet, with power to teaze

He fent, to rob the swain of ease,

In silence long, he ill conceal'd

His love, which every look reveal'd,

At length with grief, and shame oppress'd,

The nymph belov'd, he thus address'd.

A I R:

Turn oh! turn thee, gentle maid,
Save a heart by love betray'd;
Each other nymph I careless see,
Stranger to love, till taught by thee;
In pity hear,
My vow fincere:

Turn

Turn oh! turn thee, gentle maid, Save a heart, by love betray'd.

RECITATIVE.

With lively look, the nymph reply'd, I'm not in hafte to be a bride.

A I R.

Oh! how great is the joy,

To affect being coy,

And a lover to tye,

By the glance of an eye,

For while you purfue,

Our charms, appear new,

"Tis enough for old age, to be constant and true.

urn

LETTER



LETTER TO MISS E. B. AT BATH:

A time may come, (but lord knows when)

That I may try to think again.

At prefent in my brain there floats,

A thousand party-colour'd motes;

From which, if time would but permit,

I might fift out, some sparks of wit;

And

And many a line in verse, and prose,
Are lost, whilst half a sleep I doze.

My *pineal gland, could you but view
You'd scarce believe, your eyes see true:
There's such a jumble; good, and bad,
All forts of thoughts, may there be had;
Like brokers shop; where we may find,
Goods that belong'd to half mankind;
Which should the master dare produce,
Are little worth, and out of use;
And joy would sparkle in his sace,
Could he put better in their place.

TH:

And

Thus

* See the Spectator No. 275, the Dissection of & Beau's Head,

Thus oft, from shop of brain, I try,
To throw the dirt and rubbish by;
But still they gain, their former state,
Or leave a vacuum, in the pate.

And plagu'd I am, against my mind,
With thoughts, by far, too much refin'd;
That preach a doctrine, out of fashion,
Of tender love, and inclination;
Which fancy, e'er our youth is past,
Vainly concludes, will always last;
In words, and gestures, still the same,
As when they both were nymph and swain.

Then

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Th

Then skims across my rambling head, Thoughts of the absent, and the dead; Of what's to eat, and what's to drink; Of childrens welfare then I think; Next wonder, if you've-read; Then wish to get by twelve to bed; Declare, no more at home I'll stay; Was Garrick here, I'd to the play: Then why not go to church they'd fay; I dont pretend my felf to know, But fure religion is but show: What the good faint, did erst declare, That we should always be at prayer, Was never meant that we should be, For ever on our bended knee:

Then

And

And the I have not time to read,

Or fay at church my mother creed;

A figh fincere, may wing its way;

The round the room the cat's at play.

Thus far, as fample I produce,

To shew my head's of little use;

Till rouz'd to a more active scene,

I throw aside this waking dream;

And laying idle schemes apart,

Set hand to plough with all my heart;

And only snatch an hour to prove,

I still am yours, in friendly love;

And wish sincerely, you may find,

Your pleasure and your health still join'd:

And

Def

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And

To

I'm

And

And if you come to town to stay,

Desire you'll pass with me one day;

And pray dont fail to write a line,

In answer to this scrawl of mine,

Which (stranger to your dwelling place)

I mean shall bar of pump room grace.

Oh! should it fail to reach your hand,
And there a publick victim stand,
What food for laughter, I should be,
To those who nothing know of me;
But let that prove as it may hap;
I'm now inclin'd to take a nap;

And

Adieu

[16]

Adieu my friend——in every state,
May ease, and plenty be thy fate,

Is the fincere wish of yours &c.



THE

W

N

W

In



THE CHOICE.

And all my anxious forrow knows;

Who kindly listens to my pensive tale,
And weighs my foibles in the lighter scale;

Who freely speaks, and freely hears,
Nor slights my joys, nor slights my fears;

Who blest with sentiment resin'd,
In judgment soars above his kind;

C

E

Yet

Yet with a condescending ease,

Attempts, the less improv'd to please;

Steady in precept, constancy and truth,

Free from the follies, (not the fire) of youth;

Such be the heart I'd wish should join,

And echo unison to mine————



LETTER

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LETTER TO MY FRIEND E. B.

In hopes of a brilliant poetical strain;

But free from controul, my pen shall display,

The thought of the instant, or serious, or gay;

If amusing 'tis well——if sower I grow,

'Tis an easterly wind——or a pain in my toe.

No

No matter the cause whence reflections arise,

'Tis the forting his thoughts—that makes the man [wife;
A work which while young, hardly ever goes fast,

For of faculties, (sure) we use judgment the last;

Wit in vain may refine, and learning display,

Without judgment assists, to clear trisses away;

You'll expect me (perhaps) to define what I say;

To lay down a rule that may point out the way,

By which to acquire—or at least to be clear,

When your judgment's arrived—or begins to draw [near;

But mistake not my friend—that task is too hard;

Let each look 'till they find—and be that the rewards

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But alas! I talk wildly-for true as the day, You must not depend on one word that I say; For I always have fancy'd that people should stay For things that are fine, 'till they'd money to pay. That husbands, and wives, untrue to their vow, Must expect to be look'd at-I cannot tell how. That girls, if the name of old maiden they fear'd, Should feldom be feen-and never be heard. That wives should attend to houshold affairs, Their children improve and teach 'em their prayers. That not only expence, but the loss of our time, Makes pursuit, of diversions, so often a crime. That each should confider, to what they were bred, Nor aim on the heels of their betters to tread.

C 3

But

But alack! my dear girl, I'm quite out of the line,

For all the world now, are fo spruce and so fine,

That when e'er I go out—I vow I'm afraid,

Lest instead of the mistress—I speak to the maid:

P

F

You will hardly believe—but indeed it is true,
The people of London have nothing to do:
No business I mean—for morning, and night,
All the world's to be met with, at every fine sight.

By the world, you must know, you are not to suppose Such people as I—whom no body knows;

But the truly polite—who are blest with such ease,

They may marry—unmarry—and do what they splease;

Provided

Provided, that all be transacted with spirit: For wit and vivacity, constitute merit.

You remember (no doubt) the dear joys of fifteen. How you flaunted, and dreffed, and lov'd to be feen. Oh! had you been taught, as you ought to have been; You still might have flaunted, and past for fifteen; For among the gay world, we never are told, Of a mate or a female that ever grows old.

No doubt they some method have hit on at last. To keep father time from trotting fo fast; r else to the mill, they in private retire, here they throw of their years—as we our attire,

to ofe

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ey e;

ed

C4

And

[24]

And I'm tempted to think, (tho they wont make it [known)
They must have found out the philosophers stone;
For money's so plenty, that every day,
From morning to night, they throw it away.

Dear heart;

— How I figh, when I think of these things;

How oft have we thought that riches had wings;

That time gallop'd fast and for no one would stay,

And that death was a debt, we must certainly pay.

What a pity it is, we were not better bred,

And such strange musty notions, beat out of our head;

For

F

T

I

1

For now I'm afraid, 'tis too late in the day,
'Twill furpass our best skill, to drive them away:

But should you dear friend, have the luck to attain.

The art of recalling your youth back again;

With a way to supply us a plenty of gold,

I beg with all speed you'll the secret unfold;

We would quickly convince them, the fault was [not ours,
Let them give us the chance; I know we have [powers]

We'd join the gay throng, and redeem our time past,
And part of the world be reckon'd at last;

Nor should I have cause, in verse or in prose,

To subscribe my felf,

One whom no body knows.

THE

. 19 ...

or



THE RECLUSE AND FORTUNE.

CLOSE by a wood, which grac'd a hill,
Whose foot was water'd by a rill;
Where the spread beech, and reverend oak,
Had never felt the axe's stroke;

Where

Where fafe beside their friendly shade, The humbler hazel rears its head; And kindly yields a rich repast, To break the squirrels winter fast; Where lowly creeping o'er the ground, The native ftrawberry is found; And many a root, and many a feed, On which the fylvan tribe may feed; Where woodbines sweet spontaneous rove, And blooming hawthorns edge the grove; With various flowers of lovely hue, Which bloom and dye, conceal'd from view; Where fafe from harm the feather'd throng, Melodious warble forth their fong;

Retir'd

Retir'd from custom's galling chain, " Unvex'd with all the cares of gain; " A SAGE recluse, almost forgot, Liv'd in a neat but homely cot; His temper mild, his fense was strong, His judgment found, experience long; His joys were calm, by reason led, No wishes vain e'er fill'd his head ;. Free from remorfe, free from difguft,. In virtue's pow'r he plac'd his trust; With learned books his shelf was stor'd And fimple plenty deck'd his board, His meals were short, his hunger fauce, And but for health, he took his glass.

To

To crown his blifs with focial life,

Heav'n gave a chaft, a loving wife,

Possest of sense his joys to share,

A faithful female, wise and fair;

Their hours, their days, contented slew,

"Nor envy, nor ambition knew:"

It hap'd one eve, ('twas fomewhat late;)
They heard a trampling at their gate,
And murm'ring voices struck the ear,
Which spoke, a multitude was near.

'Twas FORTUNE's felf who led the van,
Gave a loud rap;—and thus began;

Stay not, but ope the door:—'Tis I:

You?——who are you?——was the reply:

Open the door, again she said,

For my commands must be obey'd;

The Sage unmov'd no notice took,

But turn'd attentive to his book!

How's this? said she; not ope the door,

To Fortune, when she profers store?

To me who us'd to adulation,

Am goddess deem'd of every nation?

What? not to Fortune lodging give,

Whom all with open arms receive?

I know you not,—returns the SAGE,

At this the dame began to rage;

Defend.

Defend my Life! if e'er I knew,

A wight so obstinate as you;

Full sure I've reason for complaint,

To be resused? 'twould vex a faint;

It nought avails the Sage reply'd,

My mind is fix'd, you're here denied;.

Go farther on, you'll numbers find,

To share your favours well inclin'd;

Besides my cot's so very small,

I could not lodge you, train and all.

Well then, said she, in milder strain, At least make room for half my train:

With steady voice once more said he, You no admittance gain from me;

She

fend.

She foft reply'd, pray stay my friend, You furely will compassion lend, To a distress'd, dejected maid, Who, flarv'd with cold, implores your aid; For Pomp permit me to intreat, Who fainting lies beneath my feet; Here's GRANDEUR too, quite weary grown, And Honour making piteous moan; Poor GLORY, Pow'R, and WEALTH are here, From your neglect in deep despair; All these attendant on my state, Intreat an entrance at your gate; At least, not every one refuse, Take half, or which so e'er you chuse;

The

The night is cold, they're fick at heart, Your pity fure will take their part.

I'm forry for their pains he faid,

But have not pow'r to give them aid.

At least faid she I must require,

You'll find a lodging for Destre;

However small your cot may be,

There's room enough for her and thee.

Begone from hence, he sternly said,
And with thee take thy profer'd maid:
No guest like her, I entertain,
To bring remorse, disgust and pain;

The

D

Ons

[34]

One only bed fupplies my cot,
And that to Hymen I allot.





MISS FASHION,

ATALE

SUPPOSE a female young, and fair,
Well vers'd in every country air,
Her face well known, in publick places;
Her fludy; drefs, and card, and graces;

159

A

A beauty, in each circle deem'd; A critic, in Bon Ton esteem'd; Whose days in diffipation flew, (And art, made diffipation new.) Whose mornings, exhibitions share, Or any fights, polite and rare; A wit at every masquerade, And of a frolick not afra id: (For furely none but prudes will fay, That females ne'er with males should play;) But fatire spare-fhe knew the law, And kept her virtue free from flaw; At night all publick places o'er, With a fmall party, half a score,

A fober game at loo she'd play; Loose a cool hundred, and away; And thus conclude a modish day.

Suppose this something like the line,
In which our modern females shine:
Then think what pangs must wreck the heart
Of sweet Miss Fashion—fore'd to part
With all the joys that life can give;
(For who remov'd from town can live.)
Fix'd in a lonely country seat,
Fit for a hermit's calm retreat;
Condemn'd with dear mamma to stay,
And now and then a visit pay

D3

Ta

To Mistress Prim; the Parson's wife,
And hear her husband's rules for life;
To church on fundays, constant go,
Where lads and lasses in a row,
Drest in their best apparel stand,
(To show respect,) on either hand;
Plac'd in the pew, she rolls her eye,
But not one single SMART can spy;
A frown she gives—and turns away;
And in a pet—begins to pray.

Sometimes with neighbouring squire they dine,
On venison pasty or surloin;
Where o'er dull port, they praise the chase,
And bett which horse will win the race;
And

And John the farmer tells, how hay

Is like to fell—next market day;

And madam talks of pyes and brats,

And of her ducklings—kill'd by rats;

Enquires for fashions out of date,

And stares at Miss's lofty tete.

At home she meets with nothing new,

And how should she know what to do?

Pappa all day his farm attends,

And with a pipe his evening ends;

Mamma prowls round the yard and dairy,

And calls aloud on Cook and Mary,

And views her poultry, cows and pig,

And fays the farmer's wife grows big;

D 4

M139

Miss Fashion hates both work and reading And dies to meet with folks of breeding; She hates to think-fhe hates their talk, And neither likes to ride-or walk; She loiters here—and faunters there, Hums half a tune-then plays an air; Traces the garden o'er and o'er, To find a part unseen before; At length she stroll'd beyond its bound, 'Till from a gentle rising ground; A little cottage caught her eye, And what, fays she, can this supply? When on her ear, these accents broke, Which by a female voice, were spoke.

Stop here fair maid, no farther stray. Beyond this cot you'd loose your way; Tho I'm a stranger to thy view. Trust me young maid I tell thee true: There's danger, which you do not fee, Step in sweet lass-you're safe with me. Her words fo mild, diffinct and clear, Prevented every female fear; Miss Fashion view'd the dame with care, Found there was fomething in her air, That look'd as she the world had seen; And that her drefs was neat and clean; And the' not quite the modish cast, Among a crowd it might have past :

The

The cottage was not furnish'd fine,

But yet it came within the line,

Of what your sober folks would fay,

Was very decent—tho' not gay;

Miss Fashion look'd and look'd again,

Saw all was clean and neat tho' plain;

She saw that nothing there was new;

But yet the things look'd tasty too;

In converse too, the dame she found,

Knew something of the modish round;

But oft declared, she hated riot,

And laid great stress, on friends and quiet.

Miss Fashion long'd to know her name,
At last she thus address'd the dame;

Dear

Dear ma'm says she, with due respect,

I dont at present recollect,

We ever had the luck of meeting,

Tho' so oblig'd, by your kind greeting;

Excuse me, if I beg to know,

To whom I so much kindness owe.

My name is PRUDENCE, faid the dame,
Lam but little known to FAME;
I long have dwelt in this small cot,
By all the modish world forgot;
If sought, I'm ready to attend;
And seldom fail to prove a friend;
My office is to watch each day,
Lest travellers, who come this way,

Dear

Shoul

And while they thro' you valley stray,
Old time should stop them in their way;
A horrid Fiend—with secret wings,
That hide beneath, a thousand stings;
Which, as he slies Reflection takes,
And into pointed arrows makes;
With which he hits the careless throng,
By dissipation led along;
Fatal and sharp the pangs they feel,
Nor care, nor art, the wounds can heal,
Time overtakes them in their way,
And drives them from the light of day.

But led by me, they hardly feel,
Reflection's arrows—tho' of fteel;
And time fo gently moves his wing,
They scarce perceive he has a sting;
Chearful and safe life glides away,
Till age rever'd brings on decay.

She ceas'd and faw the maiden blush'd,
And for a moment all was hush'd.

Miss Fashion heav'd a gentle figh,
And with a modest down cast eye;
Her kind instructor thus address'd,
Oh! let me here for ever rest;

But

Henceforth

Henceforth do thou, my new found friend,

My Monitor; — my steps attend;

Thy convert, from relapse protect,

And every word and thought direct.





To ECHO.

ECHO! thou gentle nymph, forbeat
A while to wave thy wings in air,
Cease to repeat my secret woe,
Be filent whilst my forrows flow;

And my virgin love reveal,

Or my bounding heart should beat;

When I hear my shepherd's feet;

If lost in thought, my pratting tongue,

(For near my lips, the found is hung,)

Should, e'er incautious, drop his name,'

Be silent nymph, and spare my shame.

Should tears of pleasure fill mine eye,
And my rapt'rous pulse beat high,
From the picture fancy made,
When I slept beneath you shade;
Should I tell the melting bliss,
That I feel in every kiss;

In reason's absence, should I say,
Lovely shepherd, come away;
Be silent nymph—and every day,
My vows I'll at thy grotto pay.



E OECONOMY



OECONOMY.

DISTANT from court, and far remov'd,
From scenes by art and wealth improv'd;
Two sister twins, of form sublime,
Were bred with care by father TIME.

Dame

Da

W

W

R

T

B

(

Dame Wisdom, (once his loving wife, Who long ago had quitted life,) With heavy fighs, and many a tear, Refign'd the children to his care; And with her parting breath, the dame, To each fair nymph bequeath'd a name: PRUDENCE she term'd the elder maid, Be thine OECONOMY, the faid, (My latest care.) decreed by fate, In future times to fave a state. With Arich attention, father TIME, Improv'd each maid while in her prime; And fraught her mind with every grace, That could in female heart take place.

From childhood taught, to bend their will; Strangers to every act of ill: Few friends they had, few vifits made, No airs of pride, no arts they play'd; To fashion they paid small regard, Yet knew to drefs, or write a card. The maids thus past in ease their days, Unfought by fops, unmark'd by praise; For reading oft an hour they'd chuse, Now to instruct, now to amuse, And every day they read the news, Where with furprise, they frequent see, The name of fair OECONOMY: OECONOMY the fleet has paid, She's gone to France to fettle trade;

Oeconomy

OECONOMY has lop'd our trees,

At court, no doubt her charms must please:

Thus pro and con, or first, or last,

Her name they fix'd to all that past;

And each was ready to declare,

In town she liv'd, and each knew where.

The Main convinc'd how little share,
She claim'd, in what was doing there;
Resolv'd to learn her rivals name,
Maintain her right, and clear her same.
Her sister oft would urge her stay,
But her advice bore little sway:

In

In words like these the gentle maid,
Would thus endeavour to diswade.
"Believe me girl you're much to blame,
Nought they advance, can hurt your fame;
For who that knows us both, can say,
We ever meant a different way?
And no one yet, that I can hear,
Pretends to say, that I am there;
Besides should they dispute your name,
Pray tell me how you'll prove your claim?"

Enrapt in thought, the beauteous maid,
Nor blam'd, nor prais'd, what e'er she said;
Intent to clear her spotless fame,
She sees no danger, fears no shame;

But

But hasts to town, without delay, To fearch at Court, or Change or Play: Her name she hears in every place. But no one feems to know her face; At last she mixes in a crowd, Where clam'rous tongues were speaking loud; And heard them by confent declare, OECONOMY inhabits here: Confus'd, amaz'd, she now decrys, A figure like her own in fize; That mov'd along in pomp and flate, While crowds submissive round her wait. Her name the damfel need not ask, She knew SELF-INTEREST, tho' in masque;

With boldness she approach'd the dame,

Her right demands, declares her name;

Confusion soon was in each face,

But Interest still maintain'd her place,

And with an air of proud disdain,

Condemns the maid to grief and pain;

Her slaves in hast her will obey,

And drag the beauteous nymph away,

To a lone wood—whose boughs o'er shade,

A horrid pit—were erst 'tis said,

Fair Truth was hid from human sight,

'Till sound by Time, and brought to light:

With heart felt woe, the pensive maid, Surveys the filent darksome shade;

" My

"My native home, farewell! she cries, Echo (at hand,) farewell replies; Adieu, dear fister! heavenly maid! Too late I feek, and wish thy aid."

In silence, then, she ceas'd complaint,

'Till hopeless grown without constraint,

Aloud she prays; aloud she cries,

And lists to heaven her weeping eyes;

In vain her eyes with tears o'er flow,

Her foes unmov'd no pity show;

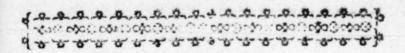
Down the deep pit the maid they hurl'd,

An exile from the thoughtless world,

Nor shall she rise to bless our race,
'Till Prudence gains Self-interest's place.



MERIT.



MERIT.

I N times of yore; (as I've been told,)

Before they made ill use of gold,

E'er law, and trade, and cards, and dice,

And jobbing stocks, were screens for vice;

T.

Before

Before they'd heard of masquerades,
Or knew to make italian *shades;
When sparks ascended to the sky,
From simple billets, piled on high:
† E'er art, had given shape to slame,
Or lambent lights told George's name:
E'er men were fops, or girls coquets,
Or titles, screen'd the great from debts:
When chearful sound of shepherds pipe,
Did more than op'ra song delight:

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^{*} Pictures exhibited at Ranelagh, fo called.

Fire works on Tower-Hill—on the front of which, Lamps was fixed, that formed George Rex.

When fair ones slept, at close of day, 'And rose at morn, to hail the may:
When youth robust, pursu'd the chase,
Or pitch'd the bar, or ran the race,
Nor fear'd the snow, or wind or rain,
Or dar'd to make a jest prophane.

There liv'd remote at foot of hill,

(By which there ran a bubling rill,)

An ancient pair—who free from strife,

Had trod the rugged paths of life;

Who never wish'd, nor fear'd their de:

But had with ease, resign'd their breat.

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[62]

One girl they left, (the maid was fair.)

To all their virtues she was heir,

Good sense she had, nor wanted spirit.

Was well brought up; they call'd her MERIT.

Her parents dead, and left alone,
She judg'd it right to come to town;
For she had heard her father tell,
The people there liv'd wondrous well:
She first a visit paid to Pride,
He was at home—but was deny'd.
For Riches she enquir'd ('tis said,)
But only saw the chamber-maid.
To Vanity, she next apply'd,
(Who was just then become a bride.)

She

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She ask'd her in, you may suppose,

To show her plate, her house, her cloaths,

Her china figures, india screen,

Her cups and saucers, right nankeen;

And when her husband, (WIT) came home,

She made the bashful damfel known.

Merry well pleas'd with herreception,

Was very loth to take exception,

But yet they gave fuch flings and jokes,

When e'er they talk'd of fober folks,

She could not for her life forbear,

But told them plain it was not fair.

Her faying this gave great offence,

And was for them a good pretence

She

To let her see, she must not stay:

She took the hint—and went away.!

Resolv'd some other friends to try,

But they were all, most wondrous shy;

Some said they did not know her name,

And others talk'd of asking same,

If she could give them information,

Who the wench was, and what her station

There still was left one worthy friend,
On whom she knew, she might depend:
Her name CONTENT; she tramp'd about,
But could not find her dwelling out.

Diffrefs'd

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Diffres'd and vex'd her money gone, She now refolv'd to leave the town: But as she walk'd along with PAIN, (Just as she'd beg d of one DISDAIN.) An open hearted youth came by, With healthful look, and piercing eye, He mark'd the maid-and found her heart, Was to his own a counter-part. The girl was smitten with the youth, And foon perceiv'd his name was TRUTH? Hearts fo alike were quickly join'd, Free from restraint they spoke their mind, Agreed to wed without delay, And having pass'd their wedding day, Went down to live with Pitt, at Hay:

efs'd

Te



TO THE NIGHTINGALE.

I'll listen to thy fong;

Perhaps thy notes may footh my breast,

Attending thee, at least I rest;

Sad is the heart, when such sweet sounds as these,

By sighs intruding lose the pow'r to please.

II Let

II.

Let not my fighs, fweet bird! disturb thy lay,
In softest murmers shall they steal away;
A throbing heart, a tear that silent flows,
Only shall declare my woes;
Words alas! but little prove,
Looks, and gestures speak in love,
Flowing mutual from the mind,
Ever constant ever kind;
But if estrang'd, what hopes remain,
To bring the wanderers back again?

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III. Hard

III.

Hard is the task to bear our grief,

Without the hope of kind relief:

Did the nymph despise my love,

Anger might my care remove;

But while doubts the soul torment,

Love can ne'er enjoy content;

If faith and truth dear nymph! thy heart would prove,

For thine own sake, my anxious sears remove!

IV.

Vain is all thy melody;

With pensive steps, I'll quit the grove,

Where erst I mus'd on constant love;

And hurried on from care to care,

Now hope, now fear, and now despair;

'Till drinking deep of Lethe's friendly stream,

Lost to myself, despair becomes a dream.

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The



THE PROPHECY.

£.

A S CUPID in his cradle lay,
Tir'd with pleasing toil of play,
VENUS watching o'er his rest,
Th' attendant graces thus address'd,

Mark

Mark this babe, while I relate,

What shall be his future fate;

He shall reign with high command,
And around his throne shall stand,

Wanton Wit, with every wile,

That can care, or thought beguile;

Gayly tripping o'er the mead,

She his careless steps shall lead.

Pleasing Hope, around his head,

Shall her downy pinions spread:

And while she statters, every fond desire,

Beauty assisting, shall increase his sire.

II.

Luxurious EASE, Supinely laid, On a bed of violets made, In her perfum'd magic bow'r, Shall enchant him by her pow'r, With curling locks, and finiles of joy, MIRTH shall greet the thoughtless boy; Whilst her sportive nymphs advance, And furround him in their dance : Rofy bands, their hands unite, (Hands of purest native white.) Nets of eglantine and vine, Shall his graceful form intwine; Long shall he sport, amid the jovial crew: Charm and be charm'd, and still each joy be new. III. FANCY III.

In a shadowy robe array'd;

Lightly skimming o'er the ground,

Shall his temples, wreath around.

To compleat the Monarch's state,

Pleasure, at his call shall wait.

These the happy boy shall tend,

And his ev'ry wish befriend;

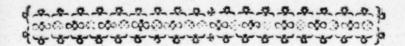
Happy indeed! if these were all thy train,

Thy pow'rs were boundless—endless were thy reign.

IV.

But too clear, my fears decry, Ills, that lurking near him lie; Haughty PRIDE, with iron chain, AFFECTATION and DISDAIN, Cold Indifference, jealous FEAR, Broken FAITH, and fad DESPAIR, Creeping on with filent pace, In thy train shall find a place, And defying all thy pow'r, (Stealing charms from every hour,) TIME shall hasten on the way, Leading quick to thy decay. 'Till Age, forgetful of my lovely boy, With frozen looks, his kingdom shall destroy. ADDRESS

7



ADDRESS TO THE MUSE,

AND HER ANSWER.

I have ask'd thee my muse, and now ask thee again;
To grant me once more a poetical strain;
'Tis not to indulge, in the hopes of applause;
Nor to speak to the men, in desence of our cause;
But the season demands, that my friendshould be clear,
That I wish her much mirth and a happy new year.

A NSW E R.

RESS

ANSWER.

Away with thy folly, nor give thy felf pain,

Thy friend doth not want, to be told it again:

For long has she known, how thy thoughts are [arrang'd,
Nor would she believe, should you swear they were [chang'd.

And often of late have I skimm'd o'er thy brain,

To tempt thee to write —but my offer was vain;

If serious I came—'twas too much for your mind;
In sentiment drest, I was thought too refin'd;

If satire I nam'd—in a fright you would say,

They surely with int'rest the debt will repay.

But I look'd thro' your heart, and sound out the [scheme,
That love, was your Ladyship's favourite theme.

And

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[77]

And, (most strange to behold;) however express'd,

To your husband alone, that love was address'd:

But custom forbad you, to speak your mind plain,

Or him to applaud, such an old fashion'd strain:

Disgusted at this, now the pen you refuse;

Then; (true Poet like,) lay the blame on your muse;

But think not that I, for your faults will atone,

Either follow your genius or let me alone.



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FROM



FROM A

VERBAL TRANSLATION.

OF AN

ITALIAN SONNET.

Plac'd on a bank beneath a shade;

Sportive, innocent and gay,

Pass'd an evening hour away.

The

所 经 经 The glaffy river running near,

Reflects their form distinct and clear,

The Shepherd viewed the charming maid,

And faw her cautiously evade,

The kind return his eyes intreat,

Should she perchance his glances meet;

But saw in the transparent tide,

The smiles she vainly strove to hide.

UN.

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aid,

The

Mark my fair, the Shepherd fays,
The beam that on the water plays;
See those rows of pearl compleat,
In that frame of coral set,
Nay my love, turn not away,
For with thee, they go or stay.

Ah!

Ah! Strephon faid the tender maid, Look not on that neighb'ring shade, Remember poor NARCISSUS' fate, And know thy danger full as great. Charm'd by the Praises of the maid, Yet to observe them, half afraid, The danger of the flood I dare, Could I but meet SALMACIS there : He foftly whifper'd-not unheard; When near his fleecy flock appear'd: The sheep disturb the limped stream, Beauteous no more the shadows seem, Confus'd the river moves along, And circles on each other throng.

The lovers gaz'd, but neither spoke,
At length the nymph her silence broke.

Tell me shepherd, tell me true,

If the sudden change we view,

May not justly be defin'd

Emblem of a lover's mind,

Which by virtuous thoughts possess,

Like the river when at rest,

Runs clear; "and as it runs, refines,"

"Till from below "the mirror shines;

But when licentious thoughts invade,

All its glories quickly sade,

Like the pure stream, your slocks defil'd,

Its charms dispers'd, its shadow spoil'd:

The



ON THE

TYRANNY OF CUSTOM.

OF tyrants I've read, who have made Nations [mourn, And of husbands and wives, being tyrants in turn; That Love is a tyrant, is oftentimes said,

Sometimes to the lover, sometimes to the maid;

That

That ANGER's a tyrant we cannot dispute. From his pow'r of changing the man to a brute. Of tyrants like these, each would shake off the chain. And the forc'd to submit, that submission is pain; But a tyrant there is, more pow'rful than these. Who inftead of oppoling, we all strive to pleafe. His name to your mind, fure I need not recall; Is not Custom, the tyrant, who governs them all? 'Tis he makes the man with fix hundred a year, Like him with fix thousand attempt to appear; He fills the assembly, the ball, and the play, With those, who attending their business should fly; He teaches to wed-for the fake of an heir, While love is bestow'd on some favourite fair;

That

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He employs ev'ry female, who would be polite,
In diversions all day, and in cards all the night;
He commands debts of honor both sexes should pay,
But judges it proper that tradesmen should stay;
He dictates our words, on our books he attends,
And scarcely allows us, the choice of our friends.

But in vain the attempt, half his powers to name,
And still harder the task, to throw off his chain;
For judgment, and reason, must learn to obey,
Whilst Custom's the tyrant, who governs the day.



ON

LORD CHESTERFIELD's LETTERS

TO A FRIEND.

I know my friend the pains and care,
You take, to breed your favourite heir;
That every day, you fill his head,
With what LORD CHESTERFIELD has faid,
Of cleaning teeth, and rubbing gums,
And washing hands, and paring thumbs;

e,

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His

His nose to blow extremely clean, And never let the dirt be feen; His buckles too-to place aright, And keep his stockings pull'd up tight; To carve at table, with an air, Nor drop the gravy here and there. For faults like these would vex a faint, This last, would furely, make you faint: To take especial care of dancing, Nor nod his head, like horse when prancing; To hand a lady to her chair, And give his fnuff box, with an air; To ogle, squese, and heave a figh, To catch a female ear, or eye;

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But let him fit, fland, run, or trot, Never let dancing be forgot; By help of that, with eafy grace, He'll move his hat, and take his place; And female hearts he'll fo enthrall, Like ninepins, they'll before him fall: With ladies too, you wish he may, In small talk, pass his time away; Their beauty flatter, praise their wit, And thus their ruling passion hit. These things acquir'd, you'll fondly fay, The GRACES bleft his natal day. I own the doctrine right and true. The GRACES are your point in view, Which, by his LORDSHIP dreft, look new.

ut

But

But for the posteript, to his book,
You may in MATTHEW PRIOR look;
Who knowing what the GRACES were,
Did thus his fentiments declare.

- "Beyond the fix'd, and moral rules,
- "Of vice, and virtue, in the schools,
- "Beyond the letter of the law,
- "Which keeps our men and maids in awe,
- "The better fort, have fet before 'em,
- " A grace, a manner, a decorum,
- 66 Something, which gives their acts a light,
- " Makes them not only just, but bright."

But

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Ta

But foft my friend—e're you proceed,
Tell me to what, this heir you breed;
Is he defign'd to court to go,
Or shine abroad like Plenipo.
Has he estate, at home to stay,
And dissipate his time away;
Or must he lead a common life,
Learn a good trade, and take a wife.

You say, you never dreamt of court, Nor must he pass his time in sport.

Then when you CHESTERFIELD commend,

Take care to draw a line good friend:

But

Leaft

Lest whilst the GRACEs he attain, Some other precepts catch his brain; And he attempt, thro' life to rife, By falshood, flattery, and lies; Never his real heart to show, Or trust a friend with joy or woe; E'en Love's foft passion, teach to bend, And make it ferve, fome private end; And wanting precepts good and found: Not ev'n a moralist be found, Whilst you, his ferious maxims tend, Proceed the GRACES to commend: But they alone, won't fuit his part, The man must have an honest heart,

Elfe

With

And

T

Else trade may fail—and credit stand, With all the GRACES at command.

Then guard him from the dangerous part,
And fix the GRACES in his heart.



Elfe

TRUTH



TRUTH The best DOCTOR,

A TALE.

A Merchant of London, had plenty of gold.
With houses and horses, and acres untold,
Success had attended his actions thro' life,
He had married his daughters, and buried his wife.

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12

In defiance of fashion he liv'd his own way.

And pussed (if he chose it) nine pipes in a day,

To the males when they came, of his wine he was series.

And the ladies he treated with cossee and teas.

He frequented the 'change, and he lik'd a good play,

And backgamon, or whist,—if it came in his way.

But he was not at ease—he'd a cloud on his brow,

And his health was not right—but he could not tell show.

Physicians were call'd, and they medicines apply'd,
Catharticks, emeticks, and blisters beside,
He was sous'd in cold water, and parboil'd in hot,
Nor was bleeding, and cupping, or glysters forgot,
To Tunbridge, to Bath, and to Margate he went,
And to give them more time, to the Spaw he was sent.
Return

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wife.

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[94]

Return but not mended, a horse they provide,

And declare for his health he must certainly ride;

He mounted each day, and still went the same round,

Both morning, and night;—but no benefit sound.

Chance often reveals, what no science can reach,

And experience in pain oft will make a man preach.

Poor FRIENDLY (an object the doctors gave o'er,)
In the prime of his life to a skeleton wore,
Was left to his strength, to a horse, and the air,
With a wish (not a hope) thus his health to repair;
When NATURE indulgent, performing her part,
And time, with precaution exceeding all art,

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His health was reftor'd, and his spirits grew gay,
Yet for many months after, he mounted each day,
And morning, and night, he rod on the same way.

The Merchant and he oft each other had past,

O'er taken—and bow'd—when a shower at last,

Oblig'd them together a shelter to seek,

When in point of good manners, you know they
[must speak.

The weather they talk of, the trees and the news,

And twenty things more which might ferve to amuse,

When FRIENDLY grown curious, his chum thus
[addrest,
May I ask, my good fir, by what ills you'r opprest...

His

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pair;

rt,

Alas

Alas fays the merchant, I'm riding for health;

A bleffing I cannot procure by my wealth.

Is your flomach impar'd?--no!--my appetite's good.

Perhaps its fome humour got into your blood.

It is not said he in their pow'r to find out;

I've neither the dropsy, the asthma, nor gout;

And after a series of medicines were try'd,

Some ten years ago, they all said I must ride;

But I find no relief—I've a weight on my brow,

And my health is not right—but I cannot tell how.

Your age pray good fir? (if I am not too free,)
Just turn'd (says the merchant) of seventy three.

Ah!

Ah! Sir he replies, I perceive what you ail,

Forty years are claps'd, and left out of your tale:

Gay youth is departed—old age will appear,

And you dont take to't kindly, my good Sir I fear.

The Merchant return'd, you are right my kind [friend, No longer on Doctors, but truth I'll depend;

No longer I'll feek after what cannot be,

No longer a frown, on my brow shall you see,

While blest with my senses, at Seventy-three.



Ah!

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ON THE USE-ABUSE OF POETRY.

The CRITIC, and the SYLPH of the VASE,

At BATH-EASTON.

IF I chose to write—fays a Critic; in spleen,
I would quickly decide, this poetical theme;
And prove it as clear, as the light to your eyes,
That poetry, serves as a shelter for lies.

T

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U

If a hero they paint, he is prais'd to the fky, And a God or a Goddess his wants must supply; If they beauty describe; I defy you to know, The face; by the picture they fet out to show. And for Satire, (believe me,) they fay that in rhime, Which they dare not in profe attempt to define. They would have you believe, that the muses inspire, And fill all their works, with poetical fire; But, from what I have faid, (which is but a part, You may fee their abuse of the Lyrical Art. Cease, cease then to rave, nor an art strive to blast, Which like truth, love, and time must for evermore Reply'd the Sylph-(who bending o'er the vafe, Upholds the mirtle wreath, which crowns applause.)

Ha

While

1

ASE,

While there's a heart that friendship's pow'r can seel;
While there's a heart, inspir'd by heavenly zeal;
While tender lovers, sear to speak their woe,
While blushing fair ones fear true love to show;
While truth sublime, shall o'er the mind prevail;
While wit shall slourish, and while beauty's frail;
While lays, poetic, from this vase resound,
By genius prompted, and by MILLER crown'd;
So long shall every tender feeling breast,
That can by joy be rais'd, or grief opprest,
Confess the bliss, poetick lays inspire,
And sing the praises of Apollo's lyre.

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DE

ODE TO PEACE OF MIND.

I.

HAil heaven born nymph, fweet peace oh! hear,
A faithful votary's, ardent prayer;
Who mourns alass! with sad dismay,
Thy absence thro' each tedious day;
And feels the precious moments fly,
In wild confus'd uncertainty,
Whose scatter'd thoughts, whose muses fall,
No pow'r but thine can e'er recal.

II. Return

II.

Return sweet nymph, and bring to me, Thoughts sedate, and sancy free:

Where, ah! where; thou maid divine,
Lyes conceal'd thy facred shrine;
Thither quick, let me repair,
Breath my vows, and hush my care.
Not in solitude thou'rt found,
Nor in mirths, deceitful round,
Not to rustick cots confin'd,
Nor, the tender feeling mind;
From courts estrang'd, thou wing'st thy way,
Nor pow'r, nor state, ensure thy stay.

111.

In kindness lend, thou maid divine, The clue, to find thy secret shrine:

With cautious hand the clue I'll hold,
That may the mystick maze unfold;
If right I ween, by thee 'twas made,
When Jove of earth the basis laid:
From Truth, from Love, from Gratitude,
From Freedom, Friendship, Fortitude,
From mutual warmth, and social care, '
The happy few in wedlock share;
Each slender sibre you conjoyn'd,
To sorm the bliss of human kind;

[104]

And Jove affenting, to the world proclaim'd,

By his behefts, the wond'rous maze was fram'd:

But least mankind should catch the clue,

And limit to this earth, their view,

Swift to his throne, you haste away;

Nor here but in our fancy stay.



Lipeliew A. was apparable

d:



ECHO DEFEATED.

Retreats fit for shepherds, to sigh out love tales;

Distrest was poor Chloe—ah! where shall she sly,

No mortal to speak to or make a reply—

How hard is my fate--says the maid with a sigh.

I

What

[106]

What a treasure of secrets have I in my pate;

I'll tell them the trees—but I'll hear my self prate:

Prate—echo replyed—that I will the nymph said;

Whilst echo attempted to follow the maid,

But her thoughts were so quick, her words slew so [fast,

That Echo could never discover the last:

I'm deseated quoth echo—no longer I'll try,

To catch your last word—I must stay 'till you dye;

End of the first Volume.



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